

FIRST CLASS MAIL



A Philmont Mobile Radio
Club Publication
125 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

the blurb

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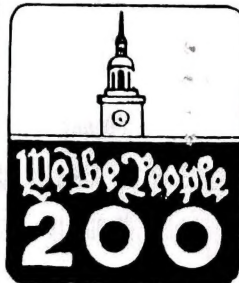


PHILMONT
MOBILE RADIO CLUB
Blurb
March 1987
W3RQZ • W3TKQ • W3QV



The DELEGATES
ARRIVE
MARCH 1787

CONSTITUTION
BICENTENNIAL



THE BLURB

is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. Our purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$6.50 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 8 PM on the first Monday (except holidays) of every month at The Franklin Institute, 21st Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia. Use the rear entrance. ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - Every meeting night at 6:30 PM.

CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001
24 Hour Information Number: (215) 448-1139

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 Mhz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3888
W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS
W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG
W3TKQ Operators: WA3AAL, Fred; N3ABS, John; K3TEF, Frank; KA3PJC, Jack; W3PWG, Rollic

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: KA3BET, Fred Reichert, Sr.
1062 Quarry Hall Road, Fairview Village, Norristown, PA 19403
VICE PRESIDENT: WB3CMM, Bill Mescanti, 405 E. Rively Ave., Aldan, PA 19018
SECRETARY: N3EAY, Bob Ricker, P.O. Box 93, Zieglerville, PA 19492
TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095

DIRECTORS

W3888 (A); K3GNM (A); AK2I (87); W3IIM (A); W3RM (87); W3VVS (88); W3ZPP (88)

BLURB STAFF

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Assistant Editors: W3IIM & WB3KOJ
Swap 'n Shop: W3888

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting.

Phil-Mont Net Schedule

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri	Sat
09:30 147.030 MHz FM		20:00 147.030 MHz FM	20:00 147.030 MHz FM			
10:00 29.000 MHz SSB		Personalized CW	Triple B-S			
10:20 3.993 MHz SSB		Practice Net	Swap Net			

9/86

from the rear seat - - -

The one nice thing about being your Editor is that I see what goes into the BLURB before anyone else. "from the rear seat" is usually the last entry, after everything else has been reviewed.

When I received "It Seems To Me" I wasn't sure that it should be in the March issue, but, rather, the April issue, the fun issue.

If I can't have fun doing whatever, and I have a choice, I'd just as soon not do it. With so much sadness and misery in the world today, I certainly don't need it in my controlled area.

For the record, we had two (2) Social events, one in early Spring and one in late Autumn, and nine (9), count 'em, nine Public Service events scattered throughout the year '86. 9 - 2 isn't bad. This year, '87, it appears that we'll have only one Social event (no chairperson).

The BLURB Committee would like to see some feedback on this, and that someone goes into greater detail for our month of April.

The two authors on these facing pages 10 and 11, as far as I know, did not see each other's work, and yet, there seems to be a common thread in there somewhere. So, if you agree with what you've read, either page, I refer you to pages 2 and 17. And if you don't like what you see, same reference. Let's hear from you, either in person at the meetings, or with that instrument that is mightier than the sword. It is your Club, it is your newspaper.

ON THE OTHER HAND, maybe, just maybe, Robert and Charles are having some fun with your Editor, and if they are, more power to them, because, I'm passing the fun onto you, The Membership.

woody

73, w3pst

MAR '87

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SPARC

SHORE POINTS
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ANNOUNCES

SPRINGFEST '87

4-H FAIRGROUNDS
EGG HARBOR CITY, N.J.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1987

9 am till 2 pm

—RAIN OR SHINE—

DONATION - \$3.00 ADVANCED - \$2.50
XYL'S FREE CHILDREN FREE

*
\$5.00 SELLERS PER SPACE
(BRING YOUR OWN TABLE)

*
8000 sq. ft. INDOOR SELLING SPACE

*
LIMITED AC POWER INDOORS

*
COVERED TAILGATING WEATHER PERMITTING

*
GOOD FOOD & BEVERAGE ON SALE

*
TALK IN 146.385/.985 & .52

ANY QUESTIONS?

Write: SPARC, P.O. BOX 142, ABSECON, N.J. 08201

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MAR '87

OLD BUSINESS

THE BLURB
30 YEARS AGO
MAR. 1957

W3AWH will review the requirements for the possible incorporation of the club ... 12th annual Old Timer's Night banquet to be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Stacy Trent Hotel, Trenton. Turkey dinner for \$6.00 ... 13 members on the BLURB committee ... 9 members have submitted more than 3 articles to the BLURB - 5 of them have submitted more than 5! (W3DSG W3SAI W3SGR W3UMK W3VVS) ('Wonder what happened to the good old days -ed.)

THE BLURB
15 YEARS AGO
MAR. 1972

K3GNM's son Bob narrowly missed serious injury when another car fell 140 feet from an overpass and landed 30 feet in front of him on the Turnpike near Moosic. He was thankful for his seatbelt! ... Chuck Snyder (W3NIP) was given a surprise party for 25 years of service at Allen Bradley ... W3PST is recovering from surgery - no doubt caused by his new duties as prescribed by his new chief Rizzo.

Sam's CORNER

A REMINDER TO SHIPYARD RETIREES,
MARCH 24: A TRIP SPONSORED BY THE
SHIPYARD (LOCAL-3) AT NO COST TO THOSE
WHO GO: TO WASHINGTON D.C. ON BEHALF
OF RETIREES AND OF THE SHIPYARD.
THOSE INTERESTED CALL LOCAL 3 OFFICE
AT THE YARD FOR MORE INFO.

897-2976

MAR.

MINUTES February 1987 GENERAL MEETING

KA3BET opened the 447th General Meeting of the PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB at 8:09 P.M. on February 2, 1987.

Members in attendance were W3s BBB, VVS, RM, TPH, PWG, IRS; K3s GBA, GNM, GQD, TYB, VXU; N3s EAY, EBE; KA3s AMO, BET; KB3s JW, IV; KC2HX; WB3CMM; KM3N; KB2AZW; and AK2I.

KB3IV gave the Treasurer's Report, which was approved as read. W3VVS reported there were 22 members and 9 visitors present. Paul introduced Christopher Hoch (harmonic of KA3AMO), Collin Boden WB3CZP, John Kramer KA3PJC, Judy Pyle NBOC, Tony Rodesky KA3QIX, Joe Reichenbach 2nd KA3MNP, Dan Vernet N3FCX, Anne Tenaglia KA3KCJ, and Dusty Rhodes ND3Q. A hearty welcome to all!!

KB3IV again reminded those with dues outstanding that they are past due. Please get them in. Thanks.

W3888 reported that the repeater was down for 28 hours due to a power supply failure. He also reported the current consensus of the repeater committee. At this time it looks like we are headed for one or more off-site receivers, a new controller, and more power at the Roxboro site.

Rollie reported that he had to replace the synchro on the map indicator on the wall in TKQ. All is now in working order.

KA3BET mentioned that we are still accepting license plates for display in TKQ. If they are not usable in the new location they will be returned to the owners.

KA3BET, in accordance with the bylaws, brought up the proposed change to the bylaws. This being two months since the original announcement, makes the issue eligible for a vote. KC2HX brought the motion on the floor to accept the change to the bylaws as it was printed in the Blurb to a vote. W3888 seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. The change was approved unanimously.

KA3BET read an excerpt from the ARRL newsletter. The ARRL has job openings. They are looking for a PIA (no that's not what you think.), and an Assistant Technical Coordinator. See the newsletter or one of the officers for more details.

AK2I reported that there were 10 examinees this evening. Of the 10 there were 2 advancements to Technician, 2 to Advanced, 2 passed the Technician Written, and 1 cornered the 13 wpm test. He also announced the intention of the F.C.C. to only give credit for written elements of the exams.

N3DHI reported that MOCOM is going to play a big part in RACES disaster drills and will need support to staff the vehicle. Anyone who wishes to lend a hand should contact Rick. He also announced that on 444.2 MHz at 7:30 PM on Wednesdays there is an Eastland net. He suggested that Phil-Mont could list its activities as a club there for republication. KB3IV suggested that we consider linking this net to our 147.03 repeater as a lead in to the swap net. Both ideas were received favorably, more to come.

KA3BET brought our attention to the fact that the Warminster Radio Club has changed their CW net to Wednesday night at 7:30.

KB2AZW stated that he would like the club to respond more to the needs of beginning amateurs, as this would create more interest in the club and be a benefit to amateur radio in general.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted: N3EAY, Honorable Secretary

*** UPDATE ***

MARCH 2

General Meeting Program: Birchard T. Clothier, V.P. & Secretary of the KEYSTONE Organization, will talk about Pennsylvania's automobile insurance law and its ramifications.

APRIL 6

General Meeting Program: WA3QLS, Robbie, presents Repeaters: Commercial and Amateur Mobile Communications.

April 23-25 Penn Relays

MAY 4

General Meeting Program: The "New" Packet Radio presented by Vic, KA3JCR.

June 1

General Meeting Program: To be announced.

June 14

Core States championship bike race.

July 18-19

PADDLERAMA

We Get
Letters, etc!

CONT'D FROM page 11

1. Let's find that novice that is staring at his VHF rig for three months and sit down beside him, talk to him about the knobs and buttons. Show him the magic of radio waves and make a contact, smile and gently push the key his or her way and say "go ahead you can do it. I will be right here, relax". And then, feel the buttons tighten on your shirt or blouse as your chest swells and your smile widens.

2. Make available to the new ham slow code nets that are relaxed and unstructured, where the new ham can pair off with an experienced CW operator that will work at the new ham's speed and discuss spacing of letters and words, abbreviations, why they are necessary, etc. Show them that code can be enjoyable and build their confidence.

3. Put on interesting demos in elementary schools - (there is at least one twelve year old extra class holder) - High Schools - Colleges. How about real nitty-gritty demos and actual 3rd party traffic operating on a regular schedule at the Franklin Institute? Work with Scouts - Explorers - give talks at Rotarys and other groups. How many non-hams know anything about 'Phone patches, Radio grams for instance?

4. Spiff up the meetings - have family outings, lunches, dinners, theater, bowling, trips to A.C. or NYC.

5. Start a beginner's class on making things like basic meters, antennas, etc.

6. How about a novice class that goes all the way to Radio Extra.

Hats off, Kudos and Thank You to those two concerned Giants: AK2I, Jake and W3RM, Dick and the many people who have helped them in the past.

But, we need a whole lot more. What I am trying to say I guess is, "We help everybody else now, damn it, let's help ourselves as well!"

MINUTES February 1987 DIRECTORS' MEETING

KA3BET opened the meeting held at the home of W3IRS, at 8:19 P.M. on February 18, 1987. In attendance were W3s IIN, D\$G, GQD, 88B, SGR, PWG, and IRS; KA3BET; K3G8A; KB3s JW, and IV; WB3CMM; N3s DHI, and EAY.

KB3IV gave the Treasurer's Report which was approved as read.

KA3BET forwarded a request from the D.V.A.R.A. to use the Franklin Institute to host a program open to all clubs on the subject of SKYWARN. After a brief discussion, N3EAY made a motion that we host the program, and it was seconded by WB3CMM. The vote was unanimous in favor of hosting the program.

W3PWG reported that 'TKQ has received two long distance contacts in regards to the We The People Celebration. He also reported that we now have 20 license plates for the shack at 'TKQ.

N3DHI reported that Abington Township wants to use MO-COM for emergency services. After some discussion it was agreed to do it on a trial basis.

W388B concluded the results of the Technical Committee meetings. After detailed discussion, KB3IV motioned: that the club, after testing and final O.K. on the TAC 200, purchase same and purchase a RC85 controller. N3EAY seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. KA3BET and W388B thanked the committee for their diligent efforts.

WB3CMM suggested that, as a matter of etiquette, refreshments should be served after the guest has given his presentation. After a brief discussion this was agreed upon and will be implemented immediately.

N3EAY volunteered to make signs announcing our V.E. exams in an effort to publicize our club and amateur radio as a whole.

Rollie announced that The Franklin Institute will be stocking amateur radio literature and tapes in their bookstore.

W3IRS suggested that World Radio would be a place to list Phil-Mont's activities. W3IIN stated that they had been previously contacted and that she would contact them again on this behalf.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 P.M. this date.

Thanks to Frenchy and Lou for their hospitality and the great Danish.

Respectfully submitted, N3EAY, Honorable Secretary.

PHIL-MONT TO SPONSOR MEETING OF RADIO CLUBS

W3PWG

Bob Haacke, KA3DVY, will conduct a briefing for all radio clubs on the subject of the National Weather Service's SKYWARN program. The meeting will be held in the Lecture Hall at the Franklin Institute on Wednesday, 25 March 1987 at 7 PM.

Bob is the ARRL Division Emergency Coordinator, and was in charge of planning the National Disaster Medical Drills held in Philadelphia in previous years.

REPEATER COMMITTEE W388B

The Repeater Advisory Committee, consisting of W388B, N3DHI, N3EAY, W3GQD, W3IIM and W3RM met twice during the month of February for the purpose of determining the direction of future changes in our repeater system. Our recommendations are as follows:

1. Increase output power of the repeater to approximately 60 watts to the cavities.
2. Improve control operations, add convenience features and improve control security.
3. Improve overall receiving sensitivity of the system.
4. Add message center capabilities.

The committee concluded that increasing power output was relatively simple, but to improve overall receiving sensitivity the most practical method was off-site receivers. Moving the main repeater site was considered, but no alternative site is available at this time. The possibility of a phone patch was considered, but the cost is prohibitive at Roxboro.

The committee's recommendations to the Board of Directors follow:

1. Purchase one RCA TAC-200 Rx/Tx unit for \$550.00.
2. Purchase one ACC RC-85 Repeater Controller board for \$895.00. Costs for rack mount panel and sheet metal not to exceed \$100.00. Integrate same with the TAC-200 to form a complete and separate repeater on 147.63/03 for immediate use in Roxboro.
3. Purchase one ACC Digital Voice Recorder with additional 256K byte memory at \$1275.00
4. Purchase used UHF equipment to complete and install 2 off-site receivers at a cost of approx \$600.00 per site.
5. Apply for 2 UHF link frequencies and 1 control frequency. Retain the present UHF repeater pair now in use.

The committee feels that the Repeater and the BLURB are the two most important operations keeping the club active, and that these changes will bind our members more closely and invite additional members and greater activity.

HAMFESTS

We will print an ongoing schedule of Hamfests based on information received. Please help us keep our list current. To be printed in this column, YOU must send it to W3IIM prior to BLURB deadline.

Mar. 22 DVRA - HAMCOMP '87, N.J. National Guard Armory, Eggerts Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08:00-14:00 146.07 146.52

Apr. 24 DAYTON Hamvention.

May 17 Warminster ARC, Middletown Grange Fairgrounds, Penns Park Rd., Wrightstown, PA 07:00-??:?? KA3F8P 147.09 145.25

Letters

WHAT WAS A HAM? KB2AZW

Let's hope that question is never asked. But, don't kid yourself and think it is impossible. In one month we lost 1,171 license holders.

It seems as though the majority of the novice license holders hang in there long enough to get voice privileges - after all, isn't that the reason they started their training? Just get enough of that damn code to buy a mike and forget it. Then they are confronted with the cliquishness of Two Meters. And, here is that damn code again! In order to get voice privileges one can use without being a member of a group or clique.

Then they have the frustration and bewilderment of the miracle of equipment available and seemingly necessary to make that big step from the "Gentleman's C.B." to the real world of Amateur Radio. You mean, I need a thousand dollar rig, meters, antenna tuner, tower, beam antenna, verticals, wires, etc., etc.!!! And this is supposed to be fun!

Let's say a novice finds a club - hoping some one will give them an idea or two. If he or she is young they find themselves surrounded by a bunch of people who are middle age and up, that applaud when they are introduced and say "good night, see you next month", an hour or two later. Well so much for the help they were hoping would be offered. Then, when he or she returns to the next month's meeting they are asked to give up a Saturday or Sunday or both for some 'bike race', when all their friends are going to the Beach.

When I think about all the many times I heard "I paid my dues, let the young members fill the breach".

Well, that's understandable, but what incentive was offered this young mobile person to provide the incentive and interest to want to wave good bye to their beach bound friends with one hand while proudly grasping their hard earned H.I. in the other?

Providing public service is necessary because, let's face it, that's the reason we exist and have access to all that juicy radio spectrum.

But, we also owe a service to ourselves. Let's start grooming, teaching and providing that dissipating pride in the Amateur Radio Service.

Maybe we can do this by considering some or all of the following suggestions:

We Get -



APPLE BYTES...

IT SEEMS TO ME

K3KUD

It may be time for Phil-Mont to decide exactly where it is going. Through the years we have been, by definition, a mobile radio club devoted to public service by the use of the facilities provided by Amateur Radio. It has been our heritage that we would provide assistance and support in any situation that was beyond the capability of the normal services, for whatever reason. Phil-Monters have never refused to abandon their own comfort, and many cases, safety, if a situation arose which required or indicated a need for our help.

In recent years it seems that we have become a "fun" club, and while there is nothing wrong with having fun, the source of the fun may be important. It may be time for us to stop developing only computer operators, camcorder users, and historical researchers to provide the material for our meeting and the BLURB. Maybe now we should get back to developing communicators, technicians, observers capable of evaluating situations and recommending steps to be taken to aid or correct such situations. This is what Phil-Mont did in the past to make the name that was so attractive to other hams that they remained on a waiting list to become part of the club.

Over the years many things have changed, and as one who was Editor of the BLURB for nine of those years I know that all of us who had an influence on the direction of the club tried very hard to keep abreast of the times while still retaining those precepts that made Phil-Mont what it was. With the influx of a great many new members, most of whom were real assets, the history and the aims of Phil-Mont appear to have been subjugated or lost entirely. Such a situation is untenable if Phil-Mont is to continue to hold the esteem of the Amateur Radio community which it at one time so richly deserved.

Let's stop worrying about the next picnic, bowling night, or other social event and get back to volunteering for, and really servicing, community and special events. Let's get back to realizing that ham radio has an important use in our world, and we should be part of it. If we don't then let's disband Phil-Mont as an Amateur Radio Club and reconstitute as the Phil-Mont Mostly Recreational Club!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03-AUSTIN F. GUTMAN - W3F0G
-ELAINE SPENCER (XYL W3BBB)
06-GEORGETTE LAFORET (XYL WA3VCY)
-MARILYN MILLER (XYL K3KNH)
-LYDIA VOLD (XYL W3SGR)
07-JUNE FAYE (XYL W3RCE)
08-BETTY CLIFFORD (XYL W3UY)
09-WARREN F. GUSS, Jr. - W3GQF
-FAYETTE TOREN (XYL W2GMA)
11-GALE ACKERMAN (XYL WA3AUN)
17-WILLIAM F. BUBECK - W3YHV
18-ROBERT RICKER - N3EAY
21-BENJAMIN ROESHMAN - W3LKI
22-DEE MOORE - WA2NSA (XYL W2FUW)
24-EDWARD S. McVAUGH - W3LEM
25-PERRY BLUM - N3AXJ
-JERRIE HALDEMAN (XYL W3PST)
26-ANNA MADARA (XYL W3PWG)
-CAROL WYATT -N3CQA (XYL AF3F)
27-LILLIAN SHAPIRO (XYL WA3IFQ)

TIME TO RENEW

AN3N, IT'S TIME TO FILL OUT A 610 FORM FOR THE FCC.

HELP PHIL-MONT

ARE YOU PLANNING TO JOIN ARRL OR RENEW YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP? HELP PHIL-MONT BY JOINING OR RENEWING THROUGH THE CLUB...CONTACT KB3IV FOR THE DETAILS.

UPDATES

LAST CALL FOR ANY DIRECTORY CHANGES...SPEAK NOW OR WAIT UNTIL '88.

....DE WB3KOJ

Phil-Mont Calendar

1987

MARCH

1987

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2m NCS W3CMM 10m NCS W3KDO 75m NCS W3PWG	2 GENERAL MEETING & LICENSE EXAMS	3 CODE PRACTICE NET	4 SWAP NET <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	5	6	7
8 2m NCS W3ZPP 10m NCS WB3KAC 75m NCS W3AOA	9	10 CODE PRACTICE NET	11 SWAP NET	12	13	14
15 2m NCS KB3JW 10m NCS KB3CT 75m NCS W3RCE	16	17 CODE PRACTICE NET <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 SWAP NET DIRECTORS' MEETING at KB3IV's	19	20	21
22 2m NCS W3AA 10m NCS KB3QE 75m NCS AK2I	23	24 CODE PRACTICE NET	25 SWAP NET	26	27	28
29 2m NCS KA3BET 10m NCS WB3CMM 75m NCS W3HFY	30	31 CODE PRACTICE NET				